

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES REPORT,  
BARNETT RANCH OPEN SPACE PRESERVE,  
RAMONA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**Submitted to:**

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USGS quadrangle: El Cajon Mountain, San Vicente Reservoir, Ramona, San Pasqual (7.5' series)

Acreage: 716.5 acres

Keywords: San Diego County; Ramona, Rancho San Vicente, Barnett Ranch; foothills; literature review; habitation, bedrock milling, lithic tools, ground stone tools, debitage, historic features, T13S, R1E, unsectioned; T143S, R1E, unsectioned; T143S, R1E, Sections 33 and 34; CA-SDI-15,021, -15,022, -15,023, -15,024, -15,025, -15,026, -15,027, -15,028, -15,029, -15,030, -15,031, -15,032, -15,033, -15,034, -15,185, P-37-016633, P-37-016639, P-37-016643, P-37-016646, P-37-016647, P-37-016650, P-37-016651, P-37-016652, P-37-016653, P-37-016655

## NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA BASE INFORMATION

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The County of San Diego has acquired the 716.5-acre Barnett Ranch property as a biological open space preserve to be included in the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) preserve system for the purpose of preservation of sensitive species and to meet the County's obligation to the MSCP. While some trails may be developed within the preserve, no large facilities or other park development are proposed. The archaeological project consisted of a records search and literature review, as well as review of the site records and notes from the survey of the project area conducted in the late 1990s by Heritage Resources. This report addresses the methods and results of the study, as well as recommendations for the management of the cultural resources of the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve.

The Barnett Ranch property was originally surveyed for cultural resources by Heritage Resources in 1997. That survey resulted in the documentation of 27 cultural resources: 16 archaeological sites, both historic and prehistoric; 1 isolated bedrock milling feature; 4 isolates; 4 locations of historic features; and 2 features of unknown origin and function. Fifteen of these resources were determined during the survey not to be significant cultural resources; they do not meet the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. The remaining twelve sites have not yet been tested to determine site boundaries and assess site significance.

While some of the previously untested sites may have little research value, others are expected to have a great deal of research potential. These sites contain bedrock milling features, apparent subsurface cultural material, and a variety of artifact types, including ground stone implements, flaked stone tools and debitage, and pottery. At many of the sites, ground visibility was rather poor, due to vegetation cover. Therefore, the amount and areal extent of cultural material may be much greater than what was noted during the survey. Before any access roads, trails, facilities, staging areas, or other features are developed, a testing program must be undertaken to determine site boundaries and assess the significance of the archaeological sites. Impacts can then be evaluated to determine the appropriateness of proposed design features. While ongoing cattle grazing would not create new impacts, introduction of grazing into areas that had previously not seen this use would potentially affect significant cultural resources. Revegetation could also have adverse affects on archaeological resources, as planting and irrigation may destroy cultural material.

If any of the sites are found to meet the criteria for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources, appropriate mitigation measures must be developed in consultation with County staff. Avoidance of impacts is preferred. This may be achieved through redesign or through active preservation measures, such as site capping. If avoidance of impacts is not feasible at any of the sites, a data recovery program must be developed in consultation with County staff and implemented prior to the actions that would adversely affect the sites.

Representatives of the Native American community should be contacted during the design process to solicit any concerns regarding cultural heritage issues. If so desired by the Kumeyaay

representatives, Native American monitors should be on-site during the testing program and during data recovery.

A testing report would be completed, detailing the methods and results of the testing program and following the general Archaeological Resources Management Report (ARMR) format adopted by the State Office of Historic Preservation and accepted by County staff. A comprehensive report would be prepared for the data recovery program as well, if data recovery is undertaken. All the cultural material collected during the survey, testing program, and data recovery program should be permanently curated at an appropriate facility within San Diego County, such as the San Diego Archaeological Center (SDAC). If no testing program is necessary (if no trail or facility development is proposed), the cultural material collected during the survey, as well as maps, notes, and original site records should be curated at the SDAC.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **PROJECT LOCATION**

The Barnett Ranch property is located in the Ramona area of San Diego County, north of Lakeside (Figure 1). The project area is just south of the Santa Maria Valley and the town of Ramona (Figures 1 and 2). The project site is east of State Route (SR 67) and south of SR 78; San Vicente Road crosses the eastern portion of the parcel. The vast majority of the property is in Township 13 South, Range 1 East, with a portion within Township 14 South, Range 1 East, on the USGS 7.5' Ramona, San Vicente Reservoir, El Cajon Mountain, and San Pasqual quadrangles (Figure 2). For the most part, the property is within the former rancho Cañada de San Vicente y Mesa del Padre Barona, which is unsectioned; a small portion of the project area is within Sections 33 and 34 of Township 14 South, Range 1 East (Figure 2).

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The County of San Diego has acquired the 716.5-acre Barnett Ranch property as a biological open space preserve to be included in the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) preserve system for the purpose of preservation of sensitive species and to meet the County's obligation to the MSCP. While some trails may be developed within the preserve, no large facilities or other park development are proposed. An aerial photograph illustrating the current condition of the property is included here (Figure 3).

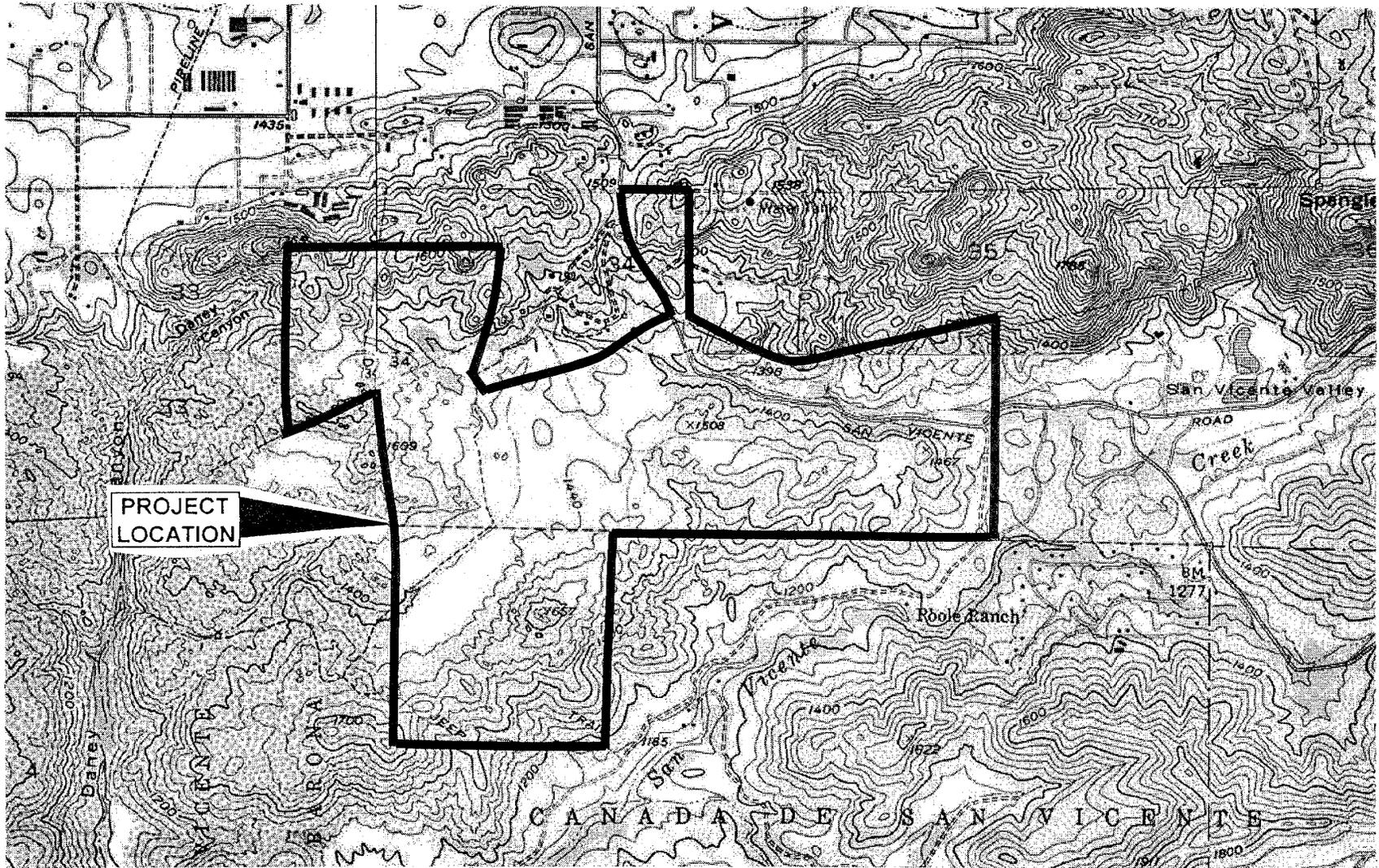
The archaeological project consisted of a records search and literature review, as well as review of the site records and notes from the survey of the project area conducted in the late 1990s by Heritage Resources. Mary Robbins-Wade served as the project manager/project archaeologist. This report addresses the methods and results of the study, as well as recommendations for the management of the cultural resources of the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve.



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Regional location in San Diego County

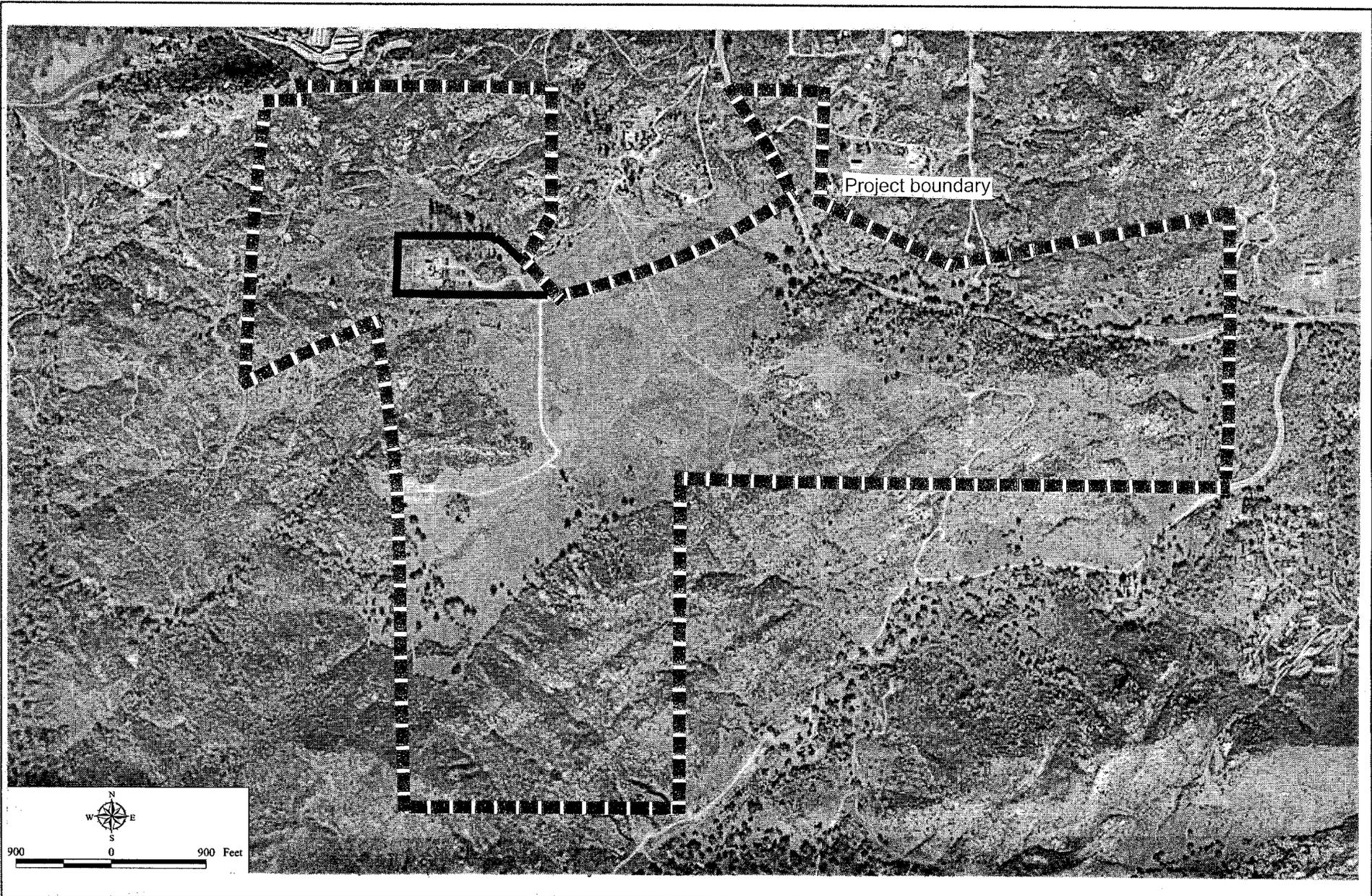
Figure 1



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Project location on USGS 7.5'  
 Ramona, San Vicente Reservoir,  
 El Cajon Mtn and San Pasqual quadrangles

Figure 2



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Aerial photograph

Figure 3

## II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

### PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The project area is in the foothills of San Diego County, where the climate is characterized as Mediterranean hot summer (Griner and Pryde 1976:Figure 3.4). Average annual temperatures range from a January low of about 36 to 40° F (Griner and Pryde 1976:Figure 3.2) to a high of about 90° F (Griner and Pryde 1976:Figure 3.1), and annual rainfall averages around 15 inches (Griner and Pryde 1976:Figure 3.3).

The central portion of the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve property is a valley surrounded by steep, rocky slopes (Figure 2). San Vicente Creek crosses just south of the project area. The Santa Maria Valley is located just north of the property, separated from it by a series of very steep hills (Figure 2).

The project area is underlain by Mesozoic granitic rocks, with limited areas of alluvium (Strand 1962). The U.S. Soil Conservation Service (Bowman 1973) maps a number of soil types on-site. About half of the project area is mapped as Cieneba very rocky coarse sandy loam, 30 to 75 percent slopes. This soil type is found on steep to very steep slopes, with rock outcrops generally covering about 20 percent of the area and very large granodiorite boulders found over about 30 percent of the area of this soil type (Bowman 1973). Other soil types mapped for the project site include acid igneous rock land, rough broken terrain; Fallbrook sandy loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes; Fallbrook rocky sandy loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes; Greenfield sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes; Greenfield sandy loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes; Greenfield sandy loam, 9 to 15 percent slopes; Placentia sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes; and Vista rocky coarse sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes (Bowman 1973). Acid igneous rock land occurs on low hills to very steep mountains and includes large boulders and rock outcrops over 50 to 90 percent of its area (Bowman 1973). The Fallbrook soils have little natural fertility, and the soils within the project area are best suited for range land, as well as some citrus and avocado growing (Bowman 1973).

The Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area currently supports a number of diverse vegetation communities, making it a perfect location for native inhabitants to have exploited a variety of environments, including a wide range of plant species and the many animal species they support. Southern mixed chaparral and Diegan coastal sage scrub are the dominant vegetation communities on the property. Southern mixed chaparral is found on the steepest slopes of the property; coastal sage scrub occurs in proximity to the chaparral. There are also pockets of chaparral/coastal sage scrub ecotone. The meadows support areas of native grasslands, which were probably much more extensive prior to the introduction of cattle and non-native grasses. Southern willow scrub is found along the tributary to San Vicente Creek that runs along San Vicente Road, in the eastern portion of the property. A larger area of southern willow scrub is mapped along another drainage in the northwestern section of the project area. Southern coast live oak riparian forest is also found in the eastern portion of the property, along the San Vicente

Creek tributary, and Engelmann oak woodland is found within the project area as well (Helix 2001).

These various vegetation communities would have provided a number of plant species known to have been used by the Kumeyaay for food, medicine, tools, shelter, ceremonial and other uses (Christenson 1990; Hedges and Beresford 1986; Luomala 1978). Many of the animal species found in these communities would have been used by native populations as well.

## **CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT**

### **General Culture History**

Several summaries discuss the prehistory of San Diego County and provide a background for understanding the archaeology of the general area surrounding the project. Moratto's (1984) review of the archaeology of California contains important discussions of Southern California, including the San Diego area. Bull (1983, 1987), Carrico (1987), Gallegos (1987), and Warren (1985, 1987) provide summaries of recent work and interpretations. The following is a brief discussion of the culture history of the San Diego region.

Carter (1957, 1978, 1980), Minshall (1976) and others (e.g., Childers 1974; Davis 1968, 1973) have long argued for the presence of Pleistocene humans in California, including the San Diego area. The sites identified as "early man" are all controversial. Carter and Minshall are best known for their discoveries at Texas Street and Buchanan Canyon. The material from these sites is generally considered nonartifactual, and the investigative methodology is often questioned (Moratto 1984).

The earliest accepted archaeological manifestation of native Americans in the San Diego area is the San Dieguito complex, dating to approximately 10,000 years ago (Warren 1967). The San Dieguito complex was originally defined by Rogers (1939), and Warren published a clear synthesis of the complex in 1967. The material culture of the San Dieguito complex consists primarily of scrapers, scraper planes, choppers, large blades, and large projectile points. Rogers considered crescentic stones to be characteristic of the San Dieguito complex as well. Tools and debitage made of fine-grained green metavolcanic material, locally known as felsite, were found at many sites which Rogers identified as San Dieguito. Often these artifacts were heavily patinated. Felsite tools, especially patinated felsite, came to be seen as an indicator of the San Dieguito complex. Until relatively recently, many archaeologists felt that the San Dieguito culture lacked milling technology and saw this as an important difference between the San Dieguito and La Jolla complexes. Sleeping circles, trail shrines, and rock alignments have also been associated with early San Dieguito sites. The San Dieguito complex is chronologically equivalent to other Paleoindian complexes across North America. San Dieguito material underlies La Jolla complex strata at the C. W. Harris site in San Dieguito Valley (Warren, ed. 1966).

According to the traditional view of San Diego prehistory, the San Dieguito complex was followed by the La Jolla complex at least 7000 years ago, possibly as long as 9000 years ago (Rogers 1966). The La Jolla complex is part of the Encinitas tradition and equates with Wallace's (1955) Millingstone Horizon. The Encinitas tradition is generally "recognized by millingstone assemblages in shell middens, often near sloughs and lagoons" (Moratto 1984:147). "Crude" cobble tools, especially choppers and scrapers, characterize the La Jolla complex (Moriarty 1966). Basin metates, manos, discoidals, a small number of Pinto series and Elko series points, and flexed burials are also characteristic.

Warren et al. (1961) proposed that the La Jolla complex developed with the arrival of a desert people on the coast who quickly adapted to their new environment. Moriarty (1966) and Kaldenberg (1976) have suggested an in situ development of the La Jolla people from the San Dieguito. Moriarty has since proposed a Pleistocene migration of an ancestral stage of the La Jolla people to the San Diego coast. He suggested this Pre-La Jolla complex is represented at Texas Street, Buchanan Canyon, and the Brown site (Moriarty 1987).

In recent years, archaeologists in the region have begun to question the traditional definition of San Dieguito people simply as makers of finely crafted felsite projectile points, domed scrapers, and discoidal cores, who lacked milling technology. The traditional defining criteria for La Jolla sites (manos, metates, "crude" cobble tools, and reliance on lagoonal resources) have also been questioned (Bull 1987; Cárdenas and Robbins-Wade 1985; Robbins-Wade 1986). There is speculation that differences between artifact assemblages of "San Dieguito" and "La Jolla" sites reflect functional differences rather than temporal or cultural variability (Bull 1987; Gallegos 1987). Gallegos (1987) has proposed that the San Dieguito, La Jolla, and Pauma complexes are manifestations of the same culture, with differing site types "explained by site location, resources exploited, influence, innovation and adaptation to a rich coastal region over a long period of time" (Gallegos 1987:30). The classic "La Jolla" assemblage is one adapted to life on the coast and appears to continue through time (Robbins-Wade 1986; Winterrowd and Cárdenas 1987). Inland sites adapted to hunting contain a different tool kit, regardless of temporal period (Cárdenas and Van Wormer 1984).

Several archaeologists in San Diego, however, do not subscribe to the Early Prehistoric/Late Prehistoric chronology (Cook 1985; Gross and Hildebrand 1998; Gross and Robbins-Wade 1989; Shackley 1988; Warren 1998). They feel that an apparent overlap among assemblages identified as "La Jolla," "Pauma," or "San Dieguito" does not preclude the existence of an Early Milling period culture in the San Diego region, whatever name is used to identify it, separate from an earlier culture. One problem these archaeologists perceive is that many site reports in the San Diego region present conclusions based on interpretations of stratigraphic profiles from sites at which stratigraphy cannot validly be used to address chronology or changes through time. Archaeology emphasizes stratigraphy as a tool, but many of the sites known in the San Diego region are not in depositional situations. In contexts where natural sources of sediment or anthropogenic sources of debris to bury archaeological materials are lacking, other factors must be responsible for the subsurface occurrence of cultural materials. The subsurface deposits at

numerous sites are the result of such agencies as rodent burrowing and insect activity. Recent work has emphasized the importance of bioturbative factors in producing the stratigraphic profiles observed at archaeological sites (Gross 1992). Different classes of artifacts move through the soil in different ways (Bocek 1986; Erlandson 1984; Johnson 1989), creating vertical patterning (Johnson 1989) that is not culturally relevant. Many sites which have been used to help define the culture sequence of the San Diego region are the result of just such nondepositional stratigraphy.

The Late Prehistoric period is represented by the San Luis Rey complex in northern San Diego County and the Cuyamaca complex in the southern portion of the county. The San Luis Rey complex is the archaeological manifestation of the Shoshonean predecessors of the ethnohistoric Luiseño (named for the San Luis Rey Mission). The Cuyamaca complex represents the Yuman forebears of the Kumeyaay (Diegueño, named for the San Diego Mission). Agua Hedionda is traditionally considered to be the point of separation between Luiseño and Northern Diegueño territories.

Elements of the San Luis Rey complex include small, pressure-flaked projectile points (Cottonwood and Desert Side-notched series); milling implements, including mortars and pestles; *Olivella* shell beads; ceramic vessels; and pictographs (True et al. 1974). Of these elements, mortars and pestles, ceramics, and pictographs are not associated with earlier sites. True noted a greater number of quartz projectile points at San Luis Rey sites than at Cuyamaca complex sites, which he interpreted as a cultural preference for quartz (True 1966). He considered ceramics to be a late development among the Luiseño, probably learned from the Diegueño. The general mortuary pattern at San Luis Rey sites is ungathered cremations.

The Cuyamaca complex, reported by True (1970), is similar to the San Luis Rey complex, differing in the following points:

1. Defined cemeteries away from living areas;
2. Use of grave markers;
3. Cremations placed in urns;
4. Use of specially made mortuary offerings;
5. Cultural preference for side-notched points;
6. Substantial numbers of scrapers, scraper planes, etc., in contrast to small numbers of these implements in San Luis Rey sites;
7. Emphasis placed on use of ceramics; wide range of forms and several specialized items;
8. Steatite industry;
9. Substantially higher frequency of milling stone elements compared with San Luis Rey;
10. Clay-lined hearths (True 1970:53-54).

Both the San Luis Rey and Cuyamaca complexes were defined on the basis of village sites in the foothills and mountains. Coastal manifestations of both Luiseño and Kumeyaay differ from their inland counterparts. Fewer projectile points are found on the coast, and there tends to be a greater

number of scrapers and scraper planes at coastal sites (Robbins-Wade 1986, 1988). Cobble-based tools, originally defined as "La Jolla", are characteristic of coastal sites of the Late Prehistoric period, as well (Cárdenas and Robbins-Wade 1985:117; Winterrowd and Cárdenas 1987:56).

### **Project Vicinity**

The Ramona area is within the traditional territory of the Kumeyaay people. Well over 100 archaeological sites have been recorded in the area of the Santa Maria Valley and the San Vicente Valley, in relative proximity to Barnett Ranch. Recent work at over 30 archaeological sites in the Santa Maria Valley have suggested that this area was the Late Prehistoric and ethnohistoric rancheria of *Pa'mu* (or Pamo). A number of multiple-component sites were identified in that study, with locations dating from 2000 years ago well into the Spanish period (Carrico and Cooley 2003). At Barnett Ranch, the gently rolling topography, availability of water, grasslands, oaks, and other desirable vegetation communities would have provided the perfect location for long-term habitation sites. The many bedrock outcrops provide abundant locations for milling features: basins, slicks, and mortars. The large grassland meadows and many oak groves in this area provided the resources that would have been processed at bedrock milling stations.

### **History of the Project Vicinity**

The historical information presented here is based on a history of San Vicente and Barona by Charles Lemenager (1997). The Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area is within the Rancho Cañada de San Vicente y Mesa de Padre Barona, an old land grant. Valle de San Vicente may have been so named by Father Mariner of the Mission San Diego, who traveled through the area in the 1790s. Padre Barona Valley was named for Father Josef Barona, who served at Mission San Diego from 1798 to 1810, before moving to Mission San Juan Capistrano. The area served as grazing lands for the Mission San Diego.

In 1846, the last Mexican governor of California, Pio Pico, granted the Rancho Cañada de San Vicente y Mesa de Padre Barona to Juan Bautista Lopez. Prior to this, in 1834, Lopez had petitioned the governor for the Rancho Secuan in what is now Dehesa. The land was granted to him in 1839. Lopez and his family lived on the ranch but abandoned it for reasons that are not clear from the records. By 1843, they had moved to San Vicente Valley and filed a *diseño* (map) with the land commission in 1852. The "first official survey of the rancho, made in 1869 by the U.S. Surveyor General, depicts the ruins of Lopez' adobe house in the general area of what is now the east end of the golf course, near Indian Head Court" (Lemenager 1997:53). This area is about two miles east of the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area. In 1850, Don Juan Lopez deeded the Rancho to Domingo Yorba, whose family owned much of what is now Orange County. Rancho San Vicente, including 32 head of cattle, was deeded to Domingo Yorba in return for a bond for \$2000. This bond guaranteed that Yorba would "properly clothe and maintain the said Juan Bautista Lopez and Maria Josepha Verdugo, his wife, during each of their material lives" (Lemenager 1997:60).

For nearly 20 years, the cattle grazing on Rancho San Vicente bore the Yorba brand. The Yorba adobe was located about a mile west of the Lopez home. It was just across San Vicente Creek, southwest of what is now number five green on the San Vicente golf course [Lemenager 1997:62].

Don Domingo presented his claim for a U.S. land patent in 1852, but the survey of the Rancho San Vicente was not conducted until 1869. The boundary was finally certified and the land patent granted in 1873, five years after Domingo Yorba had sold the property to Charles V. Howard.

Howard sold one-half interest in the property to Prudent Beaudry, J.G. Downey, and G.A. Hayward on the same day he purchased the rancho in 1868. Less than a year later, these partners sold the rancho for a handsome profit to a group of 19 individuals. Partitioning of the land began in March of 1870, and those who bought the land for ranching, rather than for speculation, had to work out land swaps to assemble working ranches.

In 1864, the County had conducted a road survey (Old Survey 12) through the land grant, approximately where Wild Cat Canyon Road now runs. Improvements to the road were made in the 1870s. The discovery of gold in Julian in 1870 brought gold fever to the San Vicente Valley area as well. Although some gold was found by prospectors over the years, there is no evidence that any individual or group made significant profits from gold mining.

“The decade of the 1880's brought solid settlers to San Vicente Valley. It was during this period that the neighboring settlement of Nuevo would take its present form, changing its name to Ramona. Pioneers with names such as Barnett, Dukes, and Stockton would settle and be a part of the San Vicente and Ramona community for many years to come” (Lemenager 1997:95). Augustus Barnett moved to California in 1870, originally settling in San Jose. After moving to San Diego, the Barnetts remained in the city for about two years before moving to the San Vicente area. Over a period of several years, Augustus purchased and traded several parcels to assemble a ranch of about 1300 acres. “The 500 or so acres of beautiful meadowland bisected by the San Vicente Creek, east of Wildcat Canyon Road, running to a point south of Spangler Peak, he named ‘Creekside’ ” (Lemenager 1997:104); this area is east of the current Barnett Ranch project area (Figure 2).

The original adobe ranch house was built around 1885. The adobe, which is still standing, is part of the Barnett Ranch complex that remains in family ownership and is immediately north of the open space preserve project area. Augustus Barnett planted vineyards and citrus groves, which were irrigated from a dam he had constructed. He also raised bees. “While Augustus is remembered by the community as a prosperous and successful farmer, it appears much of his fortune was amassed from real estate and finance” (Lemenager 1997:106). Barnett is also remembered as the benefactor who donated the town hall and library (including 5000 volumes) to Nuevo, which soon became known as Ramona. The Barnett family has remained involved in the community, and the area around the original ranch house remains in family ownership.

### III. PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Records searches were received from the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) and the San Diego Museum of Man for the project area and a one-mile radius around it (Confidential Appendix A). Several archaeological surveys have been conducted in the vicinity of the property, including projects adjacent to the property, to the south (Carrico 1976, 1978; Carrico and Carrico 1978) and to the east (Moriarty 1975).

A survey for the Sycamore Canyon-Creelman transmission line crossed the northernmost portion of the project area. One small site, consisting of a bedrock milling feature, debitage, and a mano, was recorded just west of the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve property, but no archaeological resources were found within the current project area (Alter et al. 1993).

The Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area was surveyed for cultural resources by Heritage Resources in 1997 and 1998, in conjunction with a proposed residential development (Ramona Serena). The following is an excerpt of the draft report for that survey (the report was never completed, as the proposed development project never went forward).

The property survey was completed in two phases. Valley-bottom and meadow development areas were surveyed in February 1997 to identify project constraints. At this time the proposed development areas were intuitively surveyed, focusing on the central, west, and northwest valleys and the valley margin bedrock outcrop areas. The remainder of the survey was completed in September and October 1997. In areas of less than 15% slope, surveyors used approximately 15-meter interval transects that followed topographic contours. Survey transects varied to avoid steep slopes or impenetrable brush and to inspect high-potential areas such as bedrock outcrops or level areas. A large portion of the brushy and steep areas of the property had recently burned and access and visibility in these areas were excellent. These included the mid-section of the property northeast of San Vicente Road and the east section south of San Vicente Road. The grazed and disked main valley and the northwest meadow had minimal ground cover at the end of summer and also had excellent visibility [Wade 1998:4].

Two heavily vegetated and steep areas on the northwest and southwest portions of the property could not be accessed to survey on foot. Even in areas where the surveyors crashed into this brush, the ground was thick with duff and there was no ground visibility. The major portion of these areas is planned for open space. The terraces adjacent to San Vicente Creek, at the east end of the property north of San Vicente Road, were surveyed but there was no visibility due to heavy grass cover on the flats and thick poison oak in the bedrock and oak riparian areas. This area also is not planned for development at this time. Heavy grass cover also hindered the survey on the flats on the extreme northeastern portion of the property east of San Vicente Road and on the extreme eastern portion south of San Vicente Road.

All bedrock outcrops in these areas were inspected with negative results; it is very unlikely that a significant site would be present without these outcrops showing evidence of milling [Wade 1998:4].

The Heritage Resources survey resulted in the documentation of 27 archaeological resources, including 20 prehistoric sites and isolates, 4 historic features, 1 site with both historic and Native American features, and 2 features of unknown origin and function. These sites are described in detail in the Results section.

#### **IV. RESEARCH METHODS**

The current project consists of a records search and literature review for the Barnett Ranch property. As addressed under Previous Research, the entire property was surveyed for cultural resources in the late 1990s. For this project, the senior archaeologist reviewed records searches, historic maps, and aerial photographs of the property and the surrounding area. Sue A. Wade of Heritage Resources made available her field notes, original site records, photographs, notes, and research material. The results of this review are presented in the Results section.



## V. RESULTS

The Barnett Ranch property was originally surveyed for cultural resources by Heritage Resources in 1997. That survey resulted in the documentation of 27 cultural resources: 16 archaeological sites, both historic and prehistoric; 1 isolated bedrock milling feature; 4 isolates; 4 locations of historic features; and 2 features of unknown origin and function. These sites, summarized in Table 1, are described below, based on the site records on file at the South Coastal Information Center. Site locations are shown in Figure 4 (Confidential Appendix B). Site records are included as Confidential Appendix C.

### CA-SDI-15,021

CA-SDI-15,021 is a milling station on a low knoll, with six elements (basins and slicks), two each on three separate boulders. Other slicks may have existed on now-exfoliated surfaces as well. Two manos were found and collected; no other artifacts were observed at the site. One “possible, very disrupted rock arrangement of unknown cultural affiliation or function” was found at Feature A (site record for CA-SDI-15,021, on file at South Coastal Information Center). CA-SDI-15,021 was not considered a significant cultural resource.

### CA-SDI-15,022

This site consists of a scatter of ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, as well as one milling slick, at the shallow head of a tributary to San Vicente Creek. The site is located at the eastern end of the Barnett Ranch central valley and is part of a habitation complex that also includes CA-SDI-15,026 and -15,029. Artifacts noted (not collected) include at least three manos, five pieces of debitage, and a quartzite core. While the immediate vicinity of the site has been in agriculture for over a century, oak riparian habitat is found in the nearby San Vicente Creek drainage; coastal sage scrub and chaparral vegetation are found on slopes to the south. The site is potentially a significant resource.

### CA-SDI-15,023

This sparse scatter of ground stone and flaked stone artifacts is located on the southern tip of a low knoll extending south into the central Barnett Ranch valley from the original Barnett Ranch complex, which is just north of the project area. “The scatter is bounded on the north by a graded dirt road that forms the Ramona Serena project’s northern boundary. The site may extend further to the north off-property. Site is directly south of the windmill at the 1930s ranch complex” (site record for CA-SDI-15,023, on file at South Coastal Information Center). Eight flakes and seven manos (complete and fragmentary) were found and collected at the site. The artifacts have been dispersed by decades of plowing. The site record noted, “A spring reportedly existed approximately 400 meters to the north at the original Barnett ranch house location. This spring feeds a major tributary that runs south, approximately 100 meters northeast of the site, and enters San Vicente Creek to the southeast” (site record for CA-SDI-15,023, on file at South Coastal

Table 1. Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve, Cultural Resources

Site Number	Temporary Number	Site Description
CA-SDI-15,021	RS-1	Milling station; no artifacts observed
CA-SDI-15,022	RS-4/5	Milling slick with ground stone and flaked stone artifacts. Part of habitation complex of CA-SDI-15,022, -15,026, and -15,029
CA-SDI-15,023	RS-6	Sparse scatter of ground stone and flaked stone artifacts
CA-SDI-15,024	RS-7	Milling station; no artifacts observed
CA-SDI-15,025	RS-8	Isolated milling feature with mano on nearby knoll
CA-SDI-15,026	RS-10	Variety of ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, pottery, midden soil, and yoni feature. Part of habitation complex of CA-SDI-15,022, -15,026, and -15,029
CA-SDI-15,027	RS-11/H	Yoni feature and historic stacked rock alignment with barbed wire
CA-SDI-15,028	RS-12	Lithic scatter
CA-SDI-15,029	RS-14	Milling features, ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, pottery, midden soil. Part of habitation complex of CA-SDI-15,022, -15,026, and -15,029
CA-SDI-15,030	RS-15	Milling station; no artifacts observed
CA-SDI-15,031	RS-18	Two flakes; possible lithic scatter beneath leaf duff
CA-SDI-15,032	RS-19	Milling station with a few artifacts
CA-SDI-15,033	RS-24	Light flake scatter and one milling feature. Part of habitation complex of CA-SDI-15,033 and -15,034
CA-SDI-15,034	RS-26	Habitation site with milling features, flaked stone artifacts, midden. Part of habitation complex of CA-SDI-15,033 and -15,034
CA-SDI-15,035	RS-28	Milling station with ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, and pottery
CA-SDI-15,185	RS-27	Milling station; no artifacts observed
P-37-016633	RS-2	Isolate: mano and two flakes 40 m apart
P-37-016634	RS-3	Isolate: two flakes 50 m apart
P-37-016639	RS-9	Isolate: flake
P-37-016643	RS-13H	Historic feature: pit
P-37-016646	RS-16H	Historic feature: stacked rock alignment with barbed wire
P-37-016647	RS-17H	Historic features: concrete water trough and concrete and rock well
P-37-016650	RS-20	Rock circle on flat boulder; unknown origin
P-37-016651	RS-21H	Historic features: stacked rock alignments with barbed wire, metal stakes, and wood
P-37-016652	RS-22	Rock circle on flat boulder; unknown origin
P-37-016653	RS-23	Isolated milling feature with no artifacts
P-37-016655	RS-25	Isolate: three manos

**SENSITIVE MATERIAL – IN CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX B**

**Affinis**

Shadow Valley Center  
847 Jamacha Road  
El Cajon, CA 92019

Locations of cultural resources

Figure 4

Information Center). CA-SDI-15,023 is probably a processing site associated with the habitation complexes to the north at the Barnett Ranch complex (off-property) and to the southeast at CA-SDI-15,029. The site has not been tested and is potentially significant.

#### **CA-SDI-15,024**

This site is a milling station with seven slicks and four basins on a cluster of four bedrock boulders on a low knoll on the north side of the Barnett Ranch central valley. No artifacts were observed, although the site was visited three times, and ground visibility was quite good. CA-SDI-15,024 was determined not to be a significant resource. It was probably a processing site associated with the two nearby habitation complexes.

#### **CA-SDI-15,025**

CA-SDI-15,025 is an isolated milling feature consisting of a large, discontinuous slick containing a basin and a slick in two low spots of a large boulder. The milling feature was found at the base of a prominent knoll. A mano was collected on a knoll to the north; no other artifacts were found, despite good ground visibility. This site, too, appears to be a processing location associated with the habitation complexes nearby. CA-SDI-15,025 is not a significant archaeological resource.

#### **CA-SDI-15,026**

This potentially significant site is a relatively undisturbed scatter of habitation debris spread across the upper elevations of three hill slope fingers at the north end of the property, on the north side of the central valley. A yoni feature was identified on the northwestern ridge finger. The site extends off-property to the northeast. The portion of CA-SDI-15,026 within the project area had burned shortly before the survey, so ground visibility was quite good. Artifacts observed included debitage, a Desert Side-Notched projectile point (which was collected), and a concentration of Tizon Brown Ware and buff ware sherds. Dark soil suggested the presence of midden. Oak riparian habitat is present in the drainage immediately south of the site, which is tributary to San Vicente Creek.

CA-SDI-15,026 is a component of the habitation complex that includes CA-SDI-15,022 and -15,029. Based on the presence of Tizon Brown Ware and Colorado Buff Ware sherds, as well as a Desert Side-notched point, this site complex appears to represent a Late Prehistoric occupation.

Interpretation of the “yoni” feature is problematic. Ceremonial female fertility sites called yonis were first identified as a cultural resource by Charlotte McGowan (1982). McGowan found these features in direct association with archaeological sites in southeast San Diego County. All were in the Peninsular mountains where the natural formation of the granitic bedrock outcrops provides the basic shapes for the yoni features. In only a few cases was the rock surface clearly altered. Only one ethnographic reference (second-hand) is available to corroborate McGowan’s

interpretation of these features and there are no known counterpart symbols in Kumeyaay rock art. Subsequently archaeologists have recorded additional yoni features in San Diego County. One is recorded on the southeast slopes of Mount Woodson in the Ramona Valley to the northwest.

Because it is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish yoni features from natural granitic rock shapes, the assessment of these sites is problematic. The yoni feature recorded on the property resembles several of those photographed in the McGowan report and it is in direct association with a Late Prehistoric occupation site. Future study of these feature types should include a geological inspection to evaluate the possibility of natural origins [site record for CA-SDI-15,026, on file at South Coastal Information Center].

CA-SDI-15,026 is “important as it is one of only a few site areas near Barnett Ranch that have not been destroyed by agricultural activities. It is likely a habitation site with potential for culturally and temporally diagnostic materials” (site record for CA-SDI-15,026, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

#### **CA-SDI-15,027**

This site, located in the southeastern portion of the property, has both historic and prehistoric components. It includes an isolated yoni boulder formation and a stacked stone and boulder outcrop alignment with associated barbed wire. The rock alignment is stacked between two bedrock outcrops, taking advantage of the topography to create a barrier. “A strand of barbed wire is wrapped around the bedrock crevices at each end and runs across the top of the stacked rock” (site record for CA-SDI-15,027, on file at South Coastal Information Center). No artifacts were found, despite a thorough search of the surface during the survey.

The alignment illustrates the vernacular use of natural topographic features and materials to augment and/or substitute for either hand- or commercially-manufactured fence posts and wire. This assumption is supported by Barnett descendent, Phil Parker, who currently occupies the ranch complex and grazes cattle on this property. He also suggested that the features were animal enclosures or fences using natural materials when fence materials were costly and hard to come by.

The barrier appears to function best as a downslope defense. The same barbed wire is present in the fenceline identified as site RS-16 [P-37-016646], upslope to the northwest. It appears the feature functioned as a section of that fenceline. If it is a fenceline, the alignment is dictated by the presence of useful bedrock outcrops as no straight line is identifiable. Square nails date the fenceline at RS-16 [P-37-016646] to probably earlier than 1890 and definitely earlier than 1910 [site record for CA-SDI-15,027, on file at South Coastal Information Center].

The site record for CA-SDI-15,027 noted the site as not significant. However, if the yoni feature is indeed cultural, rather than a natural rock outcrop that looks similar to other features identified as yonis, it may have cultural significance for the Native American community. In addition, based on recent research on ranching in San Diego County, Sue Wade has indicated that vernacular ranching features, such as the ingenious fencing at this site, could be considered significant resources, as representative of the ranching history of this area.

#### **CA-SDI-15,028**

This site consists of a very light flake scatter in the southeastern section of the property. A quartz dike runs through the northwestern portion of the site. The presence of quartz flakes (over half of the debitage) suggested the dike was quarried. A recent burn resulted in excellent ground visibility. The site record noted, “The site would probably not have been found if natural vegetation were in place” (site record for CA-SDI-15,028, on file at South Coastal Information Center). In addition to flakes, a number of irregularly fractured pieces of quartz were found, which may be the result of quarry activity. The site “is important as it is one of only a few site areas near Barnett Ranch that have not been destroyed by agricultural activities” (site record for CA-SDI-15,028, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

#### **CA-SDI-15,029**

CA-SDI-15,029, located on the north slopes of a high knoll on the southeast side of the central valley, is another part of the habitation complex that includes CA-SDI-15,022 and -15,026. “Bedrock outcrops, forming a bench below the knolltop and above the oak-covered flats below, contain at least 2 mortars, 2 basins, and 3 slicks” (site record on file at South Coastal Information Center). The site overlooks the tributary to San Vicente Creek. Cultural material noted includes debitage, manos, and Tizon Brown Ware sherds. Few artifacts were observed, because ground visibility was severely limited by oak duff and vegetation growth. Midden soils appeared to be present, however.

The site record noted that CA-SDI-15,029 has the greatest variety of artifacts and features of the three sites in the habitation complex (CA-SDI-15,022, -15,026, and -15,029). “Presence of Tizon brown ware suggests a Late Prehistoric affiliation. Valuable research could be pursued investigating the interrelationship with two other habitation complexes on the north of the Barnett ranch central valley (on the Barnett ranch site [off-property]) and at the west end of the valley (RS-24 [CA-SDI-15,033] and RS-26 [CA-SDI-15,034])” (site record for CA-SDI-15,028, on file at South Coastal Information Center). This site is outside the agricultural area, and, therefore, one of few sites not subject to a century of agricultural impacts.

#### **CA-SDI-15,030**

This site is another milling station, consisting of three slicks and one shallow basin on two bedrock outcrops. The slicks were found on one boulder, and the basin was on another rock a few meters

away. No artifacts were observed, although ground visibility was good. The site is located on high south-facing slopes overlooking San Vicente Creek. Due to its general lack of research potential, CA-SDI-15,030 is not a significant resource.

“The site is an outlying processing location likely associated with the RS-14/RS-10/RS-4/5 [CA-SDI-15,029/-15,026/-15,022] habitation complex 400 meters to the northwest. Of the limited use milling sites on the Barnett ranch property, this site is unique in its removal from the central valley. While the focus of the three habitation complexes was centered on the Barnett Ranch central valley, the collecting range clearly included these southern sage scrub- and chaparral-covered slopes overlooking San Vicente Creek to the south” (site record for CA-SDI-15,030, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

### **CA-SDI-15,031**

The site record for CA-SDI-15,031 indicates that during the 1997 survey a single volcanic flake:

was visible in an open area on an otherwise densely brush-covered ridge finger. A diligent search of the finger and the adjacent knoll containing the SDG&E access road to the south produced no additional artifacts. Dense brush on the upper slopes of the finger made access nearly impossible and as well has covered the ground with duff. A second search in 1998 discovered one additional flake approximately 10 meters north of the previously discovered flake. No additional materials could be located [site record for CA-SDI-15,031, on file at South Coastal Information Center].

CA-SDI-15,031 is located in the northwestern portion of the property, on the relatively steep chaparral-covered slopes. It has not been disturbed by agricultural uses. The site record noted the possibility that a lithic scatter is present beneath the duff. Therefore, the site is potentially significant, as more cultural material may be present that was not visible.

### **CA-SDI-15,032**

CA-SDI-15,032, located in the northwestern portion of the property, along the rancho boundary, consists of two loci separated by approximately 50 m. Locus A, to the west, contains two slicks on a low, flat boulder with no associated artifacts. Locus B includes a mano, a hammerstone, and five flakes (quartz and volcanic). During the 1997 survey, the area had been disturbed by road grading and mechanical equipment. When the site was revisited in January 1999, Locus B had been further disturbed by adjacent house construction at the inholding within the preserve area. “Although the area has been heavily grazed, remnants of the coastal sage scrub and chaparral, including sumac and scrub oak, are present in area” (site record for CA-SDI-15,032, on file at South Coastal Information Center). The site record further noted, “Although moderately disturbed, the site likely contains material that can contribute to understanding the interrelationship and combined functions of the three habitation complexes surrounding the valley” (site record for

CA-SDI-15,032, on file at South Coastal Information Center). Based on this, the site is a potentially significant resource.

### **CA-SDI-15,033**

This site consists of a light flake scatter and one bedrock milling feature on the “top and south slope of an obvious knoll on the north side of Barnett Ranch western valley” (site record for CA-SDI-15,033, on file at South Coastal Information Center). Six thin, patinated, fine-grained metavolcanic flakes and two quartz flakes were noted on the surface. Additional artifacts are likely, obscured by ground cover. There is a potential for subsurface cultural material as well. Two slicks were found on a single boulder approximately 25 m south of the flake scatter. A seasonal drainage that runs through the Barnett Ranch central valley into Daney Canyon is located about 100 m south of the site. The site record noted, “Site has been grazed but because of presence of bedrock has not likely been disked. Vegetation, including sumac, also supports this assumption” (site record for CA-SDI-15,033, on file at South Coastal Information Center). The site record also noted that in addition to coastal sage scrub and chaparral vegetation on the knoll and hill slopes to the north, oak riparian and oak woodland communities are found in the drainage and valley to the south.

This potentially significant site is part of the habitation complex that includes CA-SDI-15,034 to the southwest. “The more intense habitation appears to be focused on the confluence of Barnett Ranch central valley drainage and Daney Canyon creek to the west of the central valley [off-property]” (site record for CA-SDI-15,033, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

### **CA-SDI-15,034**

This is another habitation site with flaked stone material and bedrock milling features, at the western edge of the project area and extending off-property to the west. According to the site record, the “on-site portion of site is located on a slope running northwest up out of Barnett Ranch western valley to a knoll overlooking an oak-filled tributary descending to Daney Canyon to the west. . . . Western knoll portion of site is off Rancho Serena property [Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve] to the west” (site record for CA-SDI-15,034, on file at South Coastal Information Center). The part of CA-SDI-15,034 within the project area contains a lithic scatter of at least 30 flakes and flaked stone tools. The bedrock milling features (a collared mortar, three basins, and numerous slicks) were found on the knoll, which is off-property. The actual extent of the site to the west is unknown; it was noted to at least 50 m outside the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve property.

The eastern portion of the site has been grazed and possibly disked. In addition, a segment has been damaged by heavy equipment. Little vegetation remained in these areas during the survey. The off-property portion of the site was noted as “essentially undisturbed coastal sage scrub and chaparral. Thick stands of oaks and other riparian species are present in drainage to southwest” (site record for CA-SDI-15,034, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

CA-SDI-15,034 is a major component of the habitation complex at the western end of the Barnett Ranch western valley. As noted previously, the focus of this complex appears to be on the densely vegetated drainage to the southwest, as it descends to the San Vicente Creek tributary confluences in Daney Canyon, to the west. The variety of artifacts and dark soil strongly suggest a subsurface deposit at CA-SDI-15,034. The site is one of the few on Barnett Ranch that have not been substantially destroyed by agricultural activities. The site is potentially significant and appears to have a great deal of research potential.

#### **CA-SDI-15,035**

CA-SDI-15,035 is “a processing location likely associated with the habitation complex at the Barnett Ranch site just over the ridge to the east” (site record for CA-SDI-15,035, on file at South Coastal Information Center). Bedrock milling features at the site consist of six slicks with basins, one slick with a mortar, one mortar, one basin, and three slicks on an outcrop in the eastern portion of the site. A single slick was found about 40 m to the west. Flaked stone artifacts, ground stone implements, and pottery were found associated with the eastern milling features. Although the site vicinity has been trampled by cattle, there does not appear to have been any disking or plowing at the site. There is a potential for subsurface cultural material as well. The site is in a location to take advantage of surrounding coastal sage scrub and mixed chaparral vegetation; oak trees were probably present in the drainage prior to planting of the eucalyptus grove. “This site is unusual in the valley, as a processing site not destroyed by ranch agriculture” (site record for CA-SDI-15,035, on file at South Coastal Information Center). CA-SDI-15,035 is potentially a significant cultural resource.

#### **CA-SDI-15,185**

This site consists of bedrock milling features on steep slopes, located in the northwest section of the property. One mortar, one cupule/mortar, and four slicks were found on two adjacent outcrops. No associated artifacts were observed, but ground visibility was poor, due to dense vegetation. “Apart from powerline access road to the south, the site is not disturbed” (site record for CA-SDI-15,185, on file at South Coastal Information Center). CA-SDI-15,185 is about 500 m west of the Barnett Ranch complex, where springs are reported to have existed in the past. The site appears to be a processing location associated with the habitation complex at the original Barnett Ranch house site. CA-SDI-15,185 is unusual for its lack of disturbance from agriculture, and the site is potentially significant.

#### **P-37-016653**

This resource consists of an isolated bedrock slick on a large boulder. No artifacts were found. The feature is not a significant archaeological resource. The South Coastal Information Center assigned a primary number, rather than a trinomial, presumably because the feature is an isolated slick.

## ISOLATES

P-37-016633 consists of a mano found among broken outcrops on a low rise and two flakes “spread at approximately 40-meter intervals to the east” (site record for P-37-016633, on file at South Coastal Information Center). The area was inspected three times, but no other cultural material was found. At P-37-016634, one isolated quartz flake was observed during the 1997 survey, but no other artifacts were found. During the 1998 site recording inspection, an additional fine-grained metavolcanic flake was found 50 m southeast of the original isolate. These isolated artifacts “were located between two large site areas – RS-4/5 [CA-SDI-15,022] to the north and RS-14 [CA-SDI-15,029] to the southeast – and are likely affiliated” (site record for P-37-016634, on file at South Coastal Information Center). P-37-016639 is an isolated volcanic flake found in a clearing west of a brush-covered knoll that extends into the Barnett Ranch northwest meadow. Although the adjacent knoll is a likely location for prehistoric use, no other cultural material was found following three site visits between February 1997 and January 1999. P-37-016655 consists of three isolated manos. The topography of the area has been altered by channelizing the tributary immediately to the north and by disking. The isolates may be associated with the bedrock milling feature at CA-SDI-15,033, which is a short distance to the north.

## HISTORIC FEATURES

P-37-016643 is an isolated feature consisting of a pit, probably blasted, on a knoll top created by a quartz exposure. “[The] pit measures 4 feet (N/S) by 6 feet (E/W) by 5 feet in depth. The function is unknown, although it may possibly be a prospect. Gold was reportedly panned in San Vicente Creek to the south where the Ballena gravels that contain gold have washed down from the northeast” (site record for P-37-016643, on file at South Coastal Information Center). Like CA-SDI-15,027, P-37-016646 is a feature of stacked rock alignments between boulder outcrops, with barbed wire anchored in bedrock and a fence post with square nails and barbed wire. The feature likely functioned to fence livestock.

P-37-016647 comprises two features located on the north and south sides of a small drainage that runs from the Barnett Ranch complex southward to the north tributary of San Vicente Creek. Feature A is a poured concrete rectangular water trough with the date 1908 embossed at the east end. An iron pipe feeds water into the trough. Feature B is a poured concrete and mortared rock rectangular well at least 7 ft deep. A partial wood plank cover contains round nails. The concrete of Feature B appears to be of better quality than that of Feature A. “The depth of the well and the plank covering suggest that the well itself did not function to water livestock” (site record for P-37-016647, on file at South Coastal Information Center).

P-37-016651 is another series of stacked rock alignments and sporadic barbed wire, metal stakes, and wooden posts, placed among naturally occurring bedrock outcrops. The feature creates a fence line approximately 1200 ft long.

## **OTHER FEATURES**

P-37-016650 is an isolated feature on a low boulder at the northwest end of the Barnett Ranch northwest meadow, at the base of brush-covered hills to the north. This feature is “a very disrupted rock circle arranged on a flat boulder. The origin and function of the arrangement are unknown” (site record for P-37-016650, on file at South Coastal Information Center). P-37-016652 is also a disrupted circle of granitic rocks arranged on a flat boulder; the origin and function of the feature are not known.



## VI. DISCUSSION

### NATIVE AMERICAN ELEMENT

Two Native American habitation complexes have been identified within the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area, and another habitation complex can be found off-property in the area of the original Barnett Ranch house, which remains in family ownership. The sites within these habitation complexes contain bedrock milling features, a variety of artifact types, and midden soil with apparent subsurface cultural deposits. The presence of Tizon Brown Ware and a Desert Side-Notched projectile point are indicative of Late Prehistoric use of at least some of these loci. While no evidence has yet been found of Native American use of these sites during the Spanish, Mexican, or American periods, there is a potential that use of some of these areas continued into historic times. It was not uncommon for the ranches to make use of Indian laborers whose traditional lands were now under ranch ownership.

These habitation complex sites appear to have a great deal of research potential, which would make them significant archaeological resources. The sites may also retain significant cultural value to the Native American community. The habitation complex on the western end of the central valley is mainly off-property to the west. “The more intense habitation appears to be focused on the confluence of Barnett ranch central valley drainage and Daney Canyon creek to the west of the central valley” (site record, on file at South Coastal Information Center). The complex in the northern portion of the project area also extends off-site to the north. It is centered on a stream that is tributary to San Vicente Creek.

Possible yoni features have been identified at two sites within the project area. As addressed in the discussion of CA-SDI-15,026, the identification of yoni features is somewhat problematic. If the yonis within the Barnett Ranch project area are indeed cultural, rather than natural features, these sites may be of cultural significance to the Native American community.

There is a great deal of potential for interpretative trails and signs addressing the desirability of this area for habitation for thousands of years. The preservation of the range of vegetation communities would allow visitors to experience an environment similar to what the Kumeyaay knew here prior to the coming of settlers. However, particular care must be exercised in the areas of the habitation sites. No testing has been conducted to establish site boundaries and determine which areas of the site complexes contain important cultural material that should be preserved and which areas may be good candidates for trails or even for facilities that may be developed later. The sites have been subject to a great deal of disturbance from agricultural uses for more than a century. Only those sites on steep slopes, where disking and plowing have not occurred, have been safe from such impacts. Of course, the sites in these locations tend to be processing stations, as habitations were located in flat areas.

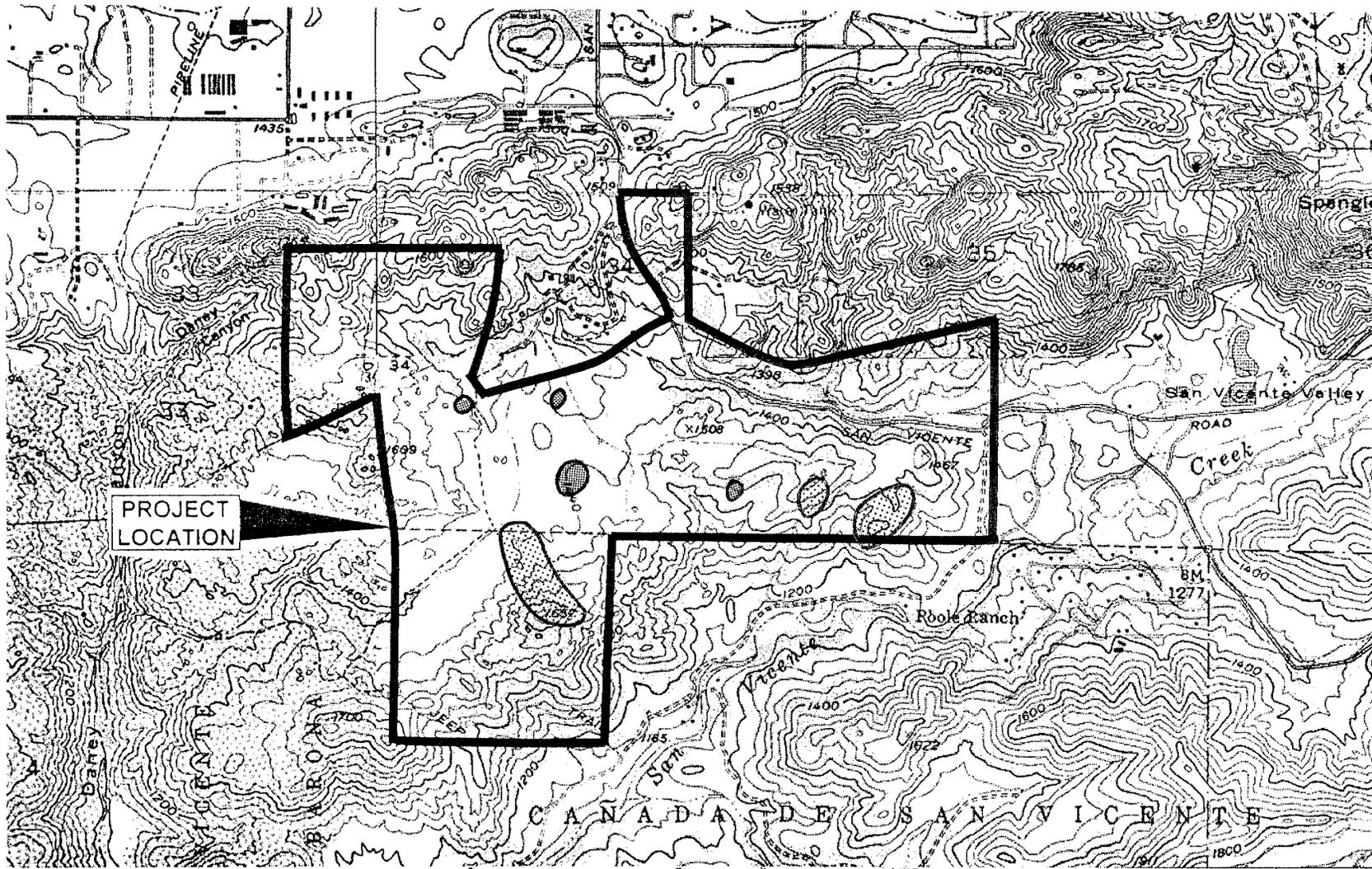
There are several milling stations at which no artifacts were found and there does not appear to be subsurface cultural material. Such sites offer interpretative potential without the threat of

visitors digging illegally and disturbing sensitive cultural deposits. Interpretative signage could indicate the importance of bedrock milling features in the subsistence of the Kumeyaay people and how these features were often gathering places for the women while they did their work, grinding acorns, seeds, berries, etc. The signage could also subtly explain that these particular milling features are located away from the main habitation sites and that no subsurface cultural material is found there, thus discouraging pot-hunting. Suggested features for such interpretation as shown in Figure 5.

### **HISTORIC ELEMENT**

Several locations of historic features have been recorded within the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area. These features are generally related to the property's history as a working ranch for over a century. CA-SDI-15,027 and P-37-016646 include stacked rock alignments between bedrock outcrops, with barbed wire wrapped around segments of the rock. The rock alignments at P-37-016651 also make use of metal stakes and wooden posts, forming a fenceline that stretches 1200 ft long. Other features include a water trough and a well. A pit feature may have been a mining prospect, as claims for gold and other minerals were made in the general area.

These historic features are not significant cultural resources, but they may offer interesting interpretive opportunities. If trails are planned in proximity to these features, interpretative signs discussing the ranching history would enhance the hiking/equestrian experience. Panels addressing the ingenious way in which the Barnetts incorporated natural elements (bedrock outcrops) and manufactured materials (metal stakes, wooden posts, barbed wire) to create these fencelines would be of interest to the general public. Areas with potential historic interpretative value are shown in Figure 5.



PROJECT  
LOCATION

TN \* MN  
13°

0 1000 FEET 0 500 1000 METERS  
MILE



historic features with interpretive value



areas of milling features with  
interpretive value

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Potential interpretive locations

Figure 5



## **VII. IMPACTS, SIGNIFICANCE, AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **IMPACTS**

The County of San Diego has acquired the Barnett Ranch property as a biological open space preserve to be included in the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) preserve system. The effects of ongoing cattle grazing will be studied to determine whether this use should continue within the preserve. In addition, some trails may be introduced in the future. No development of trails or other features is proposed at this time. Therefore, use of the property as an open space preserve would have no impacts in itself. If facilities, trails, or other development features are proposed in the future, these may have significant effects, as there are several potentially significant resources within the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area.

While ongoing cattle grazing would not create new impacts, introduction of grazing into areas that had previously not seen this use would potentially affect significant cultural resources. Revegetation could also have adverse affects on archaeological resources, as planting and irrigation may destroy cultural material.

### **SIGNIFICANCE**

Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code §5024.1, Title 14 CCR Section 4852) including the following:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values, or:
- Has yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

As summarized in Table 2, 27 archaeological resources have been recorded within the Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve project area. Fifteen of these were determined during the survey not to be significant cultural resources; they do not meet the criteria for listing in the California

Table 2. Barnett Ranch Open Space Preserve, Significance of Cultural Resources

Site Number	Site Description	Potentially Significant?
CA-SDI-15,021	Milling station; no artifacts observed	No
CA-SDI-15,022	Milling slick with ground stone and flaked stone artifacts. Part of habitation complex	Yes
CA-SDI-15,023	Sparse scatter of ground stone and flaked stone	Yes
CA-SDI-15,024	Milling station; no artifacts observed	No
CA-SDI-15,025	Isolated milling feature	No
CA-SDI-15,026	Variety of ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, pottery, midden soil, and yoni feature. Part of habitation complex	Yes
CA-SDI-15,027	Yoni feature and historic stacked rock alignment	Yes
CA-SDI-15,028	Lithic scatter	Yes
CA-SDI-15,029	Milling features, ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, pottery, midden. Part of habitation complex	Yes
CA-SDI-15,030	Milling station; no artifacts observed	No
CA-SDI-15,031	Two flakes; possible lithic scatter beneath leaf duff	Yes
CA-SDI-15,032	Milling station with a few artifacts	Yes
CA-SDI-15,033	Light flake scatter and one milling feature. Part of habitation complex	Yes
CA-SDI-15,034	Habitation site with milling features, flaked stone artifacts, midden. Part of habitation complex	Yes
CA-SDI-15,035	Milling station with ground stone and flaked stone artifacts, and pottery	Yes
CA-SDI-15,185	Milling station; no artifacts observed	Yes
P-37-016633	Isolate: mano and two flakes 40 m apart	No
P-37-016634	Isolate: two flakes 50 m apart	No
P-37-016639	Isolate: flake	No
P-37-016643	Historic feature: pit	No
P-37-016646	Historic feature: stacked rock alignment	No
P-37-016647	Historic features: water trough and well	No
P-37-016650	Rock circle on flat boulder; unknown origin	No
P-37-016651	Historic features: stacked rock alignments	No
P-37-016652	Rock circle on flat boulder; unknown origin	No
P-37-016653	Isolated milling feature with no artifacts	No
P-37-016655	Isolate: three manos	No

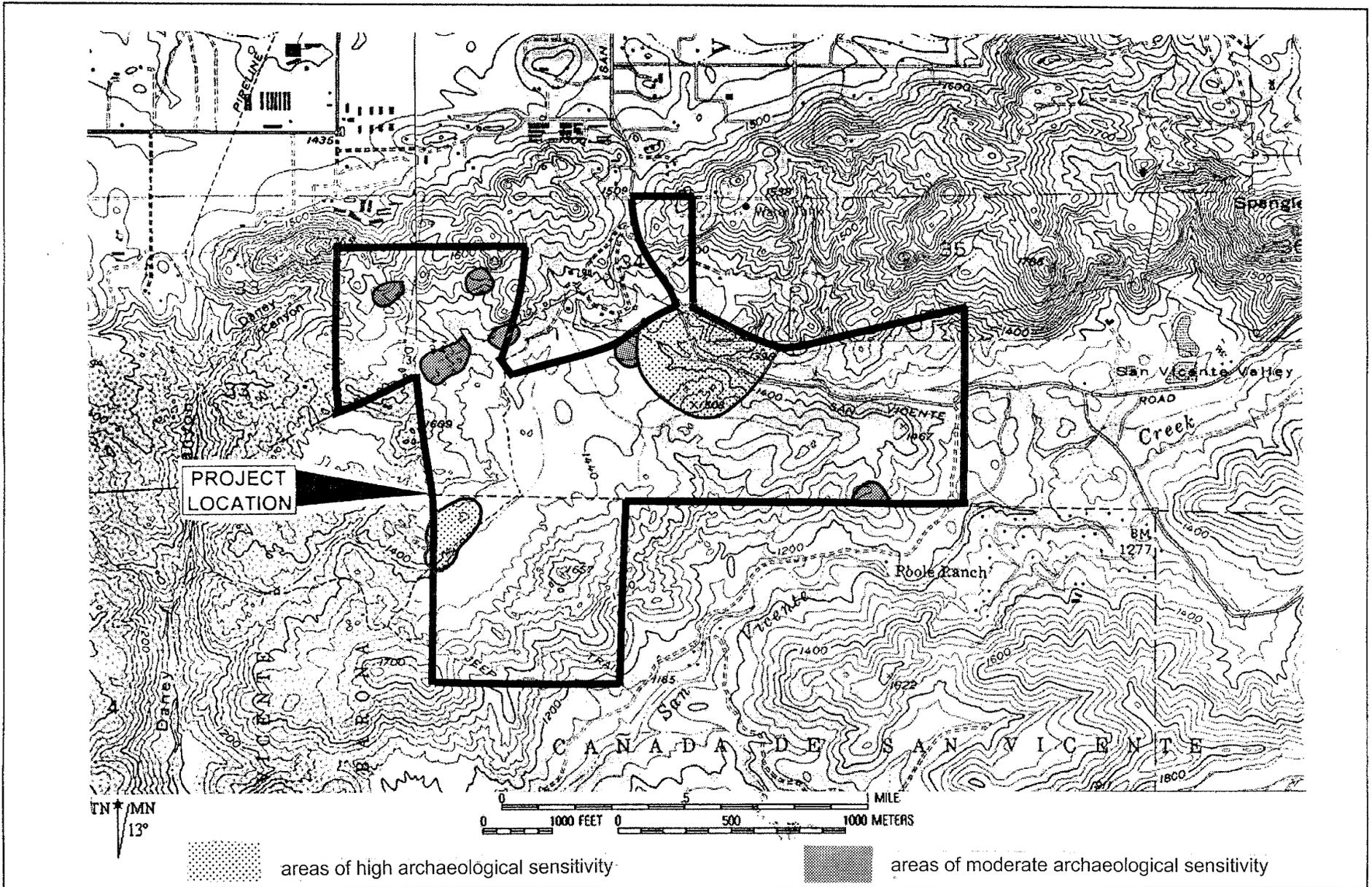
Register of Historical Resources. The remaining twelve sites have not yet been tested to determine site boundaries and assess site significance. One of these sites, CA-SDI-15,027, was noted on the site record as not significant. However, if the yoni feature at that site is indeed cultural, rather than a natural rock outcrop that looks similar to other features identified as yonis, it may have cultural significance for the Native American community. In addition, based on recent research on ranching in San Diego County, Sue Wade of Heritage Resources has indicated that vernacular ranching features, such as the fencing at this site, could be considered significant resources, as representative of the ranching history of this area. It must be noted that the significance determinations for the Barnett Ranch sites were noted on the site records during the survey without discussion with County staff.

While some of the previously untested sites, like CA-SDI-15,031, may have little research value, others, such as CA-SDI-15,029 and CA-SDI-15,034, are expected to have a great deal of research potential. These sites contain bedrock milling features, apparent subsurface cultural material, and a variety of artifact types, including ground stone implements, flaked stone tools and debitage, and pottery. At many of the sites, ground visibility was rather poor, due to vegetation cover. Therefore, the amount and areal extent of cultural material may be much greater than what was noted during the survey. Before any access roads, trails, facilities, staging areas, or other features are developed, a testing program must be undertaken to determine site boundaries and assess the significance of the archaeological sites. Impacts can then be evaluated to determine the appropriateness of proposed design features.

### **MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

As addressed above, prior to development of any access roads, trails, facilities, staging areas, etc., and prior to implementation of revegetation or grazing plans, a testing program must be undertaken to determine the extent and significance of the cultural resources that may be affected by such plans. A research design and testing plan should be developed by the archaeological consultant in coordination with County staff. As summarized in Table 2, 12 sites would require assessment: CA-SDI-15,022, -15,023, -15,026, -15,027, -15,028, -15,029, -15,031, -15,032, -15,033, -15,034, -15,035, and -15,185. Figure 6 illustrates areas of high archaeological sensitivity (the habitation complexes). This figure also shows the general locations of archaeological sites requiring evaluation but which are not expected to be found to be significant cultural resources.

If any of the sites are found to meet the criteria for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources, appropriate mitigation measures must be developed in consultation with County staff. Avoidance of impacts is preferred. This may be achieved through redesign or through active preservation measures, such as site capping. If avoidance of impacts is not feasible at any of the sites, a data recovery program must be developed in consultation with County staff and implemented prior to the actions that would adversely affect the sites.



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Areas of archaeological sensitivity

Figure 6

Representatives of the Native American community should be contacted during the design process to solicit any concerns regarding cultural heritage issues. If so desired by the Kumeyaay representatives, Native American monitors should be on-site during the testing program and during data recovery.

### **Disposition of Human Remains**

If human remains or features having cultural heritage significance are encountered, excavation in the area would be halted while the archaeological consultant confers with representatives of the Native American community to determine the disposition of the cultural material. Treatment of human remains and associated grave goods would reflect the traditional religious beliefs and practices of the most likely descended Native Americans governed by way of applicable law. If human remains and/or grave goods are discovered during project implementation, procedures similar to those outlined below should be followed. Human remains constitute all cremated remains, inhumations, partial and complete, including non-articulated bone fragments, that have been determined by way of non-destructive analysis to be human, or are deemed likely to be human.

1. Prior to implementation of a testing or data recovery program, a pre-excavation agreement should be developed between the most likely descendants and the County of San Diego.
2. If evidence of human remains and/or grave goods is discovered during project implementation, all work in the area of the discovery shall be stopped, and the Native American monitor shall be informed immediately, along with all other parties as required by law or by other agreement.
3. With the consent of the most likely descendants, or their designated representative, all human remains and grave goods found during the proposed undertaking would be examined in situ by Rose Tyson, Physical Anthropologist affiliated with the San Diego Museum of Man, hereinafter the Museum.
4. After examination in situ, and with the consent of the most likely descendants or their designated representative, the human remains and grave goods, if any, would be removed by Rose Tyson and taken by her to the Museum for custodial safekeeping, until the material is returned to the most likely descendants for reburial.
5. In the event that Rose Tyson is not available, within the time constraints governed by applicable law for removal of the human remains, an alternate qualified physical anthropologist would conduct the in situ examination, removal, and transport to the Museum, for custodial safekeeping.

6. Alternatively, the most likely descendants may choose to leave human remains and grave goods in situ, as specified in the pre-excavation agreement.

### **Reporting**

A testing report would be completed, detailing the methods and results of the testing program and following the general Archaeological Resources Management Report (ARMR) format adopted by the State Office of Historic Preservation and accepted by County staff. A comprehensive report would be prepared for the data recovery program as well, if data recovery is undertaken. In order to allow the data recovery report to work as a stand-alone document, a project description would be included, describing the proposed development and the role of the data recovery program in mitigating impacts to below a level of significance. The report would present the research design and a discussion of how the goals of the data recovery program were met (or not met). Field and laboratory methods would be detailed, and technical analyses would be included as appendixes to the body of the report. Detailed site maps would be presented, illustrating the locations of excavation units and trenches. Documentation of the bedrock milling features and any other cultural features encountered would be included as an appendix to the report. This documentation would include drawings and photographs, as appropriate. Illustrations and photographs of representative tools and diagnostic artifacts would be used, including illustrations of ceramic rim shapes, diagnostic projectile points and other formal tools, and any unusual items. Photographic overviews of the sites would also be included. Graphs or charts of statistical analyses would be included as appropriate, including tree diagrams, pie charts, or bar graphs, as necessary to better explain the textual discussions.

All the cultural material collected during the survey, testing program, and data recovery program should be permanently curated at an appropriate facility within San Diego County, such as the San Diego Archaeological Center (SDAC). If no testing program is necessary (if no trail or facility development is proposed), the cultural material collected during the survey, as well as maps, notes, and original site records should be curated at the SDAC.

## **VIII. INDIVIDUALS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED**

Mark Carrel	South Coastal Information Center
Grace Johnson	San Diego Museum of Man
Sue A. Wade	Heritage Resources

## **IX. PERSONNEL**

The following persons participated in the preparation of this report:

Mary Robbins-Wade, M.A. (RPA)	Director of Cultural Resources
Andrew Giletti	Crew Chief
Richard Knauel, M.A.	Graphic Artist



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**CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIXES TO  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES REPORT,  
BARNETT RANCH OPEN SPACE PRESERVE,  
RAMONA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**NOT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

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**August 2003**

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**CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX A**

**RECORDS SEARCHES**

**CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX B**  
**LOCATIONS OF CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX C**

**SITE RECORDS**